



COLLIER HERITAGE FOUNDATION

DISSEMINATING COLLIER FAMILY GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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Isaac Collier's Powder Horn from the American Revolutionary War

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 8:48 PM \ 3 COMMENTS \ BY COLLIERHERITAGE \ EDIT

(Originally posted September 26, 2020)

Here is a great challenge for researchers and a terrific look at a Collier military artifact dating from the founding of the United States. Realizing that "Isaac" is by no means a rarity in Collier names, any help you can provide to connect this item to family lines will be gratefully received.

CHF received this message from the a member of the Shelby County Kentucky Historical Society in Shelbyville, Kentucky.

I am a member of the Shelby County, Kentucky Historical Society. We were gifted with a powder horn that was owned and carried by Isaac Collier, during the American Revolution. Can anyone tell me more about this particular Isaac Collier, and how he (or his descendants may be connected to Kentucky?

We followed up by asked for photographs and additional information.

Thank you so much for the quick response! The powderhorn is scrimshaw, and is elaborately carved. Isaac Collier's name and 1776 are inscribed on it, among other things. The item was donated by a gentleman by the name of Charles S. Moore, who said he was a descendant and that it was carried by Isaac Collier during the Revolutionary War. Any information you can find out about him would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

*Heather Cecil
Shelby County, KY Historical Society*

Here are pictures of this important Collier Family treasure.



1776 scrimshaw powder horn made and carried by Isaac Collier in the American Revolutionary War. Gifted by Charles S. Moore, Sr. family.



Detail of Isaac Collier's name carved on the 1776 powder horn he made during the American Revolutionary War. Gifted by Charles S. Moore, Sr. family.



Revolutionary War powder horn, circa 1776, made and carried by Isaac Collier. Gifted by descendant Charles S. Moore family.



Detail of 1776 powder horn made by Isaac Collier during the Revolutionary War. Gifted by Charles S. Moore, Sr. family.

Thank you to Shelby County Kentucky Historical Society for seeking out CHF and providing the information and photographs.

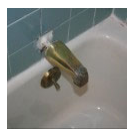
Some interesting facts about powder horns from Wikipedia: Typically there was a stopper at both

ends, in later examples spring-loaded to close automatically for safety. The wide mouth was used for refilling, while the powder was dispensed from the narrow point. In some cases the point was closed and the mouth used for both, with a powder measure, a type of scoop used to dispense the powder, and in others both ends were open and the horn merely used as a funnel. The horn was typically held by a long strap and slung over the shoulder.

The inside and outside of a powder horn were often polished to make the horn translucent so that the soldier would be able to see how much powder he had left. The use of animal horn along with nonferrous metal parts ensured that the powder would not be detonated by sparks during storage and loading. Horn was also naturally waterproof and already hollow inside.

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3 Thoughts on “Isaac Collier’s Powder Horn from the American Revolutionary War”



Mitzi Crabtree

on [November 7, 2023 at 5:31 pm](#) said:

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I would love to find out which Isaac is which, I’m even confused if one of mine was at Kennesaw Mountain in the Civil War or if he was a different one.

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Marsha Collier

on [December 16, 2023 at 12:01 am](#) said:

[Edit](#)

My great grandfather was Isaac Dudley Collier born 1819 in Nash County,N.C. Died Nov.1860 in Nash County,N.C. He is descended from Myhill Collier’s brother to Vines Collier.

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Lionel Maurice Collier

on [March 25, 2024 at 4:05 pm](#) said:

[Edit](#)

Hello from Lionel Collier in Toronto b1960 a descendant of Peter Collier b1754 at Astley, 8 miles from Manchester UK and came to Montreal in 1776 as a British soldier (he was a weaver at Manchester) My ancestor Peter Collier settled at Prince Edward County, Ontario in 1784, with his second wife, Isabella Power of Illes Aux Noix (Fort Lennox) Quebec. My grand father was Gerald Verdun Collier 1917-2008

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